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SUBJECT: KING ABDULLAH SWEARS IN NEW CABINET

REF: A. AMMAN 2851

[1](#)B. AMMAN 2826

[1](#)1. (U) King Abdullah swore in a new cabinet under recently-appointed Prime Minister Adnan Badran on April 7 (refs). Of the 26 ministers (counting Badran), only 11 are hold-overs from the previous cabinet, and four of those have shifted to new ministries. New Deputy Prime Minister Hisham al-Tel adds to his portfolio the Ministry of Political Development. Asma Khader will remain Minister of Culture but loses her title as GOJ spokesperson; no replacement has yet been named. As in the cabinet of ex-PM Fayez, four women occupy ministerial positions. Complete bios of the new ministers and analysis will follow septel.

[1](#)2. (U) Members of the new cabinet are:

Prime Minister and Defense Minister Dr. Adnan Badran

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Political Development Hisham al-Tel

Minister of Finance Bassem Awadallah (resigned as Minister of Planning in Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Social Development Abdullah al-Uwaidat

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdel Salam al-Abaddi

Minister of Municipal Affairs Tawfiq Kureishan

Minister of Education and Higher Education and Scientific Research Khalid Touqan (carry-over from Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of State for Legal Affairs Abed al-Shakhanbeh

Minister of State for Observing Government Performance Salah al-Bashir (former Minister of Justice under Fayeze)

Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Alia Hatough-Bouran (carry-over from Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Azmi Khreisat (carry-over from Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Water and Irrigation Ra'ed Abu al-Saud (former Minister of Public Works and Housing in Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Culture Asma Khader (carry-over from Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Health Sa'id Darwazeh (carry-over from Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Agriculture Yusef al-Shureiqi (former Minister of Environment in Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Telecommunications and Information Technology Nadia Sa'id (carry-over from Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Transport Saud Nuseirat (carry-over from Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of State for Development of the Public Sector Taysir al-Smadi (former Minister of Planning in Fayeze cabinet)

Minister of Justice Muhammad Ali al-'Alawneh

Minister of Interior Awni Yarfes

Minister of Foreign Affairs Farouq al-Qasrawi

Minister of Public Works and Housing Yusef Hiyasat

Minister of Industry and Trade Sharif al-Zoubi

Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Suheir al-Ali

Minister of Environment Khalid al-Irani

Minister of Labor Bassem al-Salim

[1](#)3. (U) Minimize considered.

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